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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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Attached hereto is a transcription of a monitored conversation between Sharon Collins, Brian Grehoski, and Janet Burris.

Investigation on 02/17/2012 at Phoenix, AZ

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by SA Mervil C. Mason:mcm *MCy*

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION



TRANSCRIPTION
Interview Sharon Collins, February 17, 2012

Participants

BG	Special Agent Brian Grehoski, FBI
JB	Special Agent Janet Burris, FBI
SC	Sharon Collins
KW	Kathleen Winn
UM	Unidentified Male

Abbreviations

[UI]	Unintelligible
[OV]	Overlapping voices
[PH]	Phonetic spelling
[RC]	Recorded message
[IA]	Inaudible

Reviewed by Mark Stribling *ms*

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MM:sec

BG: This is Special Agent Brian Grehoski with the FBI. It is February 17th, two thousand twelve. With me is Special Agent Janet Burris. Is it Janet or Janice?

JB: Janet.

BG: Janet. Sorry Janet. Right. Um, and we're speaking with Sharon Collins down in Tucson. And the purpose of the interview is to discuss, uh, some recent happenings that were brought to our attention, relating to the, ah, captioned matter. Um, Sharon, can—we'll just start with a little background. Can you tell us, ah, how you first met Tom Horne, what your relationship's been with Tom Horne –

SC: Okay.

BG: -- how long you've known him?

SC: Sure.

BG: That type of stuff.

SC: Well, two thousand two I ran for Secretary of State. And I was on the campaign trail and I got to know Tom on the campaign trail. Because I have a background education, and I politically been around the state and I know a lot of people. Um, he asked me to head the Tucson office for the Department of Education. So I became the greater Arizona, ah, ah, associate down here. And I took care of southern Arizona. And then when he became A-G, I took the same job, I just moved to the third floor in the same state building.

BG: Okay. And so you –

SC: And I've been with him for nine years total.

BG: Nine years?

SC: Um hm (affirmative).

BG: Okay. And, I'm sorry, say again, when did you start with the A-G's Office?

SC: Ah –

BG: Was it –

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SC: The A-G –

BG: -- as soon as he took office?

SC: -- soon as he took office, January.

BG: So it was January two thousand eleven?

SC: Yeah. I've been with him one year. Um hm (affirmative). Um hm (affirmative).

BG: Okay. Um, and just briefly, what are your responsibilities down here?

SC: Well, ah, I, um, outreach, Constituent Services. I set up office political activities. I set up office community activities. Um, if there's, um, people come to me for problems. You know, everything from fraud to sh—um, if there's some criminality involved and, what I've learned to, in the – the year, is to send it to the right lawyer. And, um, and then I, um – his big – one of the big things I do is arrange his calendar, help with his calendar. And operational here. I work with our, um, I have a manager and we – we have actually five locations. And, ah, it's – it's much bigger than I thought it was, and so I'm kind of in charge, but I'm here to support the lawyers, too.

BG: Okay. And, you were somewhat involved in Tom Horne's campaign for Attorney General? Uh – can –

SC: Sure. Off – when I was off, not on state time, but on the weekends and the – and the evenings.

BG: Okay. And – and just general terms, what types of activities did you do nights and weekends for Horne's campaign?

SC: Oh, just a—attend a – a rally. Attend rallies, that type of thing, and put out literature.

BG: Okay.

SC: And, ah –

BG: Did you organize them or facilitate them, or just attend?

SC: No, usually I would – I was attendee. And I would help put up signs on the weekends.

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BG: Okay. Okay.

SC: You know, I did a lot of what I was told. Um, so just general campaign things on the weekends.

BG: Okay.

SC: And nights, you know.

BG: Okay. Did you give speeches on his behalf or –

SC: I would say something on his behalf.

BG: Okay.

SC: You know. But, I mean everything was directed from Phoenix.

BG: Okay.

SC: And so... But if there was – but I would let them know, that's part of my job, as what's going on down in southern Arizona. Do you think I should attend that this weekend, blah, blah, blah, you know?

BG: Okay.

SC: So it's a, um, you become that and – when you work for an elected official you do, you know, things on the weekends.

BG: Um hm (affirmative). And, generally you've had a good relationship with Mister Horne?

SC: Yes I have.

BG: Okay.

SC: He's been a good boss.

BG: Okay. And can you tell us when you first, uh, met or learned about Kathleen Winn and what she is to you or how – how –

SC: Well, I received some emails, um, my home – on my home, ah, computer. Ah, just about, um, that she was doing outreach, um, I believe outside Pima County. And I don't remember exactly what her territorial part was, 'cause she learned that I was

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Pima County. But, um, I think that she was doing outside Maricopa and Pima County ou—ou—some outreach for Tom. And I – that's – so I got a few emails like that. And then I met her at a – after I – first time I met her was at a – after the primary won, we beat Andrew Thomas, at a function.

BG: Okay.

SC: Celebration function. First time I met her.

BG: And that primary, where was that held?

SC: Ah, the me—ah, it was at a clubhouse at – at, ah, Tom's neighborhood in Paradise Valley, neighborhood, you know, clubhouse.

BG: Okay. Uh, that was after the primary and –

SC: After the primary, at night.

BG: It was a week or so after, it was –

SC: Yeah, it was at night. Like a week or so after, it was at night, a evening event. Um, I remember everybody was surprised to see me 'cause I came up from – came up – I brought a friend of mine. And, um, we came up. I remember that now, Paula came with me.

BG: Okay.

SC: And I think Chuck was there, too.

BG: And that's Charles Diaz?

SC: Uh huh (affirmative).

BG: Chuck Diaz?

SC: Uh huh (affirmative).

BG: Okay.

SC: Mm hm (affirmative).

BG: And was that on the weekends, or was it, ah –

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SC: I think that was on a, ah, Friday night.

BG: A Friday night?

SC: Yeah, I think so.

BG: Okay.

SC: I don't remember, that's was – that's one thing I don't remember. But I know it was in the evening. And I didn't have to work the next day, so...

BG: Okay.

SC: Something like that, I think.

BG: And so you had email exchanges with her prior to?

SC: Um hm (affirmative).

BG: Y—the primary happens, Mister Horne wins, you go up and you have this celebration, or attend this –

SC: Um hm (affirmative).

BG: -- this victory, if you will.

SC: I didn't have that much contact with her, honestly, on a personal, I didn't know her on a personal level. All – I didn't know where she came from, all of a sudden she was just involved in our campaign and I didn't know where she came from or where Tom knew her or anything. I really didn't know anything about her.

BG: Okay.

SC: Just – and so, it was a surprise to me. You know, when she came aboard and became the state Outreach Director.

BG: Okay, and so – and that – was that her title for the campaign, Outreach Director for –?

SC: You know, I don't know if she had something. Trying to remember how he introduced all of us. But I think it was more of an outreach, you know, a getting in the, ah, the rurals. Getting them onboard, maybe.

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BG: Okay.

SC: You know. But she was –

BG: The rural, you mean the rural areas of Arizona?

SC: Yeah. Rural areas, uh huh (affirmative), maybe that was more, um, because she, you know, she's married and she is some mortgage broker I believe as background.

BG: Okay.

SC: Um...

BG: Um, okay. And did you recall having any contact with her after that celebration, after the primary? Were there any emails that you recall during the general election portion of the campaign?

SC: Do you know, I don't remember. Um, the Felicia ti—the Felicia time. Um [pause] you know I – I don't recall because you know what, we – we were not friends. I don't think we had any, ah, I think that she stayed within the Phoenix realm mostly, after she found out I was a southern Arizona gal, you know, um, I – I didn't have – that's why I said I really didn't – really didn't know her. I didn't have – I was completely taken aback when she came onboard. Because I didn't know – I knew that she was involved in Phoenix, um, with the campaign, but that's all I knew. Because she was upset with the – Andrew Thomas.

BG: Do you recall why that was?

SC: By something, um, I don't know, something that I have no idea. Something that happened.

BG: Okay.

SC: That – so she really wanted to come onboard with Tom.

BG: Okay.

SC: So –

BG: So, in your opinion or your experience –

SC: Yeah.

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BG: -- her -- her motive was beat Andrew Thomas, get Tom Horne elected?

SC: Yeah.

BG: Okay.

SC: Sure. Definitely.

BG: Okay.

SC: Like many other people, but she was definitely [laughter]...

BG: Okay. Um, eh, I -- we—I've heard that she's somewhat of a -- a vocal domineering person. Did -- did you have that experience with her? Did she try to influence, or was she overbearing with you in -- in trying to get her --

SC: Yes.

BG: -- opinion pushed down or...?

SC: Yes. I -- I was kinda worried, to be honest, about our administration, because she seemed to kind of take over. And, uh, Tom listened to her. And that bo--bothered me because he listened to her above everybody else. And I think we all felt we'd been with him for a long time and here she came in and he was listening to her. And we, um, I felt like honest -- we all -- we had all helped bring him to the party, but she became the focal point of, um, his campaign and then in to his new administration. So that kind of bothered me, just the way it was going.

BG: Was there any scuttlebutt as to how this outsider could come in and sort of take over?

SC: Yeah.

BG: Where as, like you said, you -- you'd all been with him for so long.

SC: I have no idea. I didn't get it.

BG: Okay.

SC: I did not get it.

BG: Okay.

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SC: Really.

BG: And were you aware of her independent expenditure committee or an in—and – let me say it differently. An independent expenditure committee that she was associated with? And when did you become aware of that?

SC: Mmm. God, how'd that come down? I was just told, ah, that that Kathleen Winn is going to – ah, Kathleen Winn is going to open up independent expenditure campaign. That's the only thing I remember. And, ah [pause] and the last – and then the next thing I know is, um, oh, gosh, ah, is that my friend Chuck wanted to help Tom more, so, um, I said I think there's an independent expenditure campaign. But I – you can talk to this Kathleen Winn. So, then I just got out of it.

BG: Okay.

SC: And that's what happened. And she came down, I know, to Chuck's house and picked up a check.

BG: Okay.

SC: And that's kinda how it was. 'Cause I kind of washed my hands of a lot of, you know, that, 'cause I – like I said, I'm a staffer and, so... But that's – that's how it came down for me.

BG: Okay. Did that notice that she was going off to do this independent expenditure, did that come in an email, was it a phone call, was it something that went out to the whole campaign?

SC: Mm. It didn't come in an email. To be honest I can't remember how it came about. It was kinda like one of those things like this is an independent expenditure campaign. And, you know, I – to be honest, I cannot remember how it came about. I was just told, and, um, maybe by a staffer in Phoenix. Because, to be honest, I was really separate from what was going on in Phoenix.

BG: Okay.

SC: With the campaign, even though, like I said I, um, I – you find, like I said, this is very – people find this who run any offices down here for elected officials. You are the second person, th—you know, you—you're down the totem pole, you're down on the food chain, as knowing what's going on.

BG: Um hm (affirmative).

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SC: Until something happens. Or there's, you know, you're a – you're – or there's a – a fire and then you're a – there to put it out.

BG: Okay.

SC: That's kind of what you do, you know?

BG: Sure.

SC: But I – honestly, I don't remember.

BG: Okay.

SC: Like a staffer or something, you know?

BG: So you – and – and I know this is year –

SC: Yeah, I can't remember.

BG: -- this is a couple years old, and we – I understand that. Um –

SC: Yeah, I can't remember how that came about. 'Cause you know, honestly, I tried not to do anything. My psyche was to stay away from Kathleen.

BG: Okay.

SC: And it still is today. And – I mean I was – because I just felt like she is, ah, steering him in the wrong direction. And I felt like she's thrown me under the bus a couple times. And so, ah, and – and I've caught her lying. But, um, so I've just kind of stayed away from her. And that was my mentality why [UI] the way I even thinking, [UI] remembering.

BG: What – what did she, eh, throw you under the bus on?

SC: Oh, ah, just telling people things that aren't true.

BG: Okay.

SC: You know? Like, um, she told my own staff here that, um, that the gal up in – ah, up in Crim is in charge of the Tucson office. And that she'll run everything by her. And – and my staff comes to me said what's going on? I – I thought you were in charge of the office. I mean, things like that. And I just let them go, 'cause I'm not gonna get into it with her, because she's Tom's confidant. So that's – that's been

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very hard. This – the administration's been hard because of that.

BG: Okay. Um, so you referred Chuck to this independent expenditure.

SC: Right, right.

BG: And they – then you were out of it. You had no other contact.

SC: I was out of it. That's right.

BG: Did you refer anybody else –

SC: No.

BG: -- that you can think of? It was just –

SC: No, Chuck's my friend and I knew he wanted to help Tom, that's all.

BG: Okay.

SC: And he's –

BG: How long – how long have you known Chuck?

SC: Well all through the, um, A-D-E. I met him through Tom through A-D-E. Because he liked what Tom was saying about ethnic studies. He – he support him on the ethnic studies, ah, on a bill. And so he won, and that's how I met him. I met him at like a couple function—well, not – you know, after hours. You know, I met him and he's always, um, he's – likes to talk politics. And so he – but he's been a friend, he's given to a lot of philanthropic things he's given me money for.

BG: Okay.

SC: So it's not just, you know, politics.

BG: Okay. Um –

SC: But he's always been honest, I've been honest with him. I told him when I – when things are coming up. But to be honest, I did not know Kathleen that – at – well that – at that stage of the game. You know?

BG: Okay.

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SC: During the campaign. She, like I said, she came out of nowhere.

BG: Um hm (affirmative). And – and that's a very narrow window. 'Cause the primary ended August twenty-fifth. And the election was November ninth. So we're only talking –

SC: Yeah.

BG: -- se—ah, two and two, so eight, ten weeks. Um...

SC: Yeah.

BG: Short time frame.

SC: Yeah, well I got some emails before the primary I think.

BG: Um hm (affirmative).

SC: You know? But I remember the story was, is that she was upset with, ah, Thomas. And so she came in to help Tom. That was the – that was like the sound bite I got.

BG: Okay.

SC: But I didn't know her from Adam.

BG: Okay.

SC: I knew all the other people. All of the other players, you know?

BG: Um hm (affirmative).

SC: So much, but she was one I didn't know.

BG: Okay. Did – is the name Business Leaders for Arizona familiar?

SC: No. I mean, I know, I got from, ah, Don took it off his computer and I saw it.

BG: Okay.

SC: You know, I couldn't find that – I couldn't find any of that stuff, you know, if you go into look those independent expenditures, but he had it – he showed it to me.

BG: Yeah. It's all on the Secretary of State's website. It's public record.

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SC: It's – it's all public record.

BG: Right.

SC: So, but I couldn't even – I – it's hard to find.

BG: Um hm (affirmative).

SC: But he showed it to me around the holidays, when I saw, you know.

BG: Okay. Yeah, and – and, just for background, it – she did raise a bunch of money in January two thousand ten and did something against Andrew Thomas. But then in October, she raised over a half a million dollars to run these anti- Felicia Rotellini ads.

SC: Oh, really?

BG: Yeah. And –

SC: I think I – okay.

BG: Yeah. And – and again, you can look on Secretary of State [UI]

[OV]

SC: Okay, I can, you know. Alright.

BG: -- giving you any secret information the FBI has but –

SC: Right, no, no, no.

BG: Yeah.

SC: No. I heard part of the reason that she was very prominent in our staff is that she raised a lot of money and she was very supportive of Tom and she was one of the reasons he got elected. And that's just the bottom line, so...

BG: That's what I was gonna start asking you next. I mean, so she had the reputation of being the money getter is...?

SC: One of 'em.

BG: One of 'em?

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SC: Um hm (affirmative).

BG: Okay.

SC: Um hm (affirmative).

BG: Um –

SC: I don't know who else would be, but anyway she was – I mean that was kind of the, ah, the gossip. You know?

BG: Did you guys ever hear what her husband did for work?

SC: I think he's retired now. He – I think, um, background in, um, arm—the Armed Forces maybe?

BG: Okay.

SC: I – I don't know.

BG: Okay.

SC: Or she – she was in charge – eh, I don't know.

BG: Okay.

SC: I know she was in the mortgage business. But I mean, she told me she – she didn't have to worry about money.

BG: Okay.

SC: So...

BG: So –

SC: [Laughter]

BG: Just to – to dwell on the scuttlebutt a little more about –

SC: Yeah, yeah.

BG: -- she's the money person, was it her and her husband's connections that were –

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SC: No, not her husband's connections.

BG: Not her husband's?

SC: I don't think -- he's kinda like mine. I mean, um, I saw them at one event, but he's like a nice guy.

BG: Okay. Which event was that?

SC: Oh, so -- that was a fund raiser at -- at -- in the evening. What -- a fund raiser in the evening.

BG: Do you recall if it was during the primary?

SC: It was after the primary. Uh huh (affirmative).

BG: Was it after the general? I mean was it after he took office?

SC: [Sigh] No. Oh, no. Definitely not. It was a fund raiser after the primary, at night.

BG: Okay. So there was -- and that's -- that's pretty important for -- for what we're trying to show. Um, for her to claim she was independent, she would have had no contact with the campaign. But if she's attending fund raisers between the primary and the general election, she's not independent from the campaign. Um, so, it -- would you have a calendar that would show when that fund raiser was and where?

SC: Let me look that up.

BG: Okay.

SC: Where was that, anyway?

BG: Was it the one where --

SC: He might have been already in office, because I had a -- the reason I was there, I had a -- maybe it was just to raise some money. You know what, it was --

BG: Was that the one with Steven Seagal?

SC: Yes!

BG: Okay.

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SC: That's the one. How'd you know? [Laughter] That's the one.

BG: Okay. So we know that one. That was --

SC: That was the one.

BG: That was March twenty-eighth, two thousand eleven.

SC: Yeah, that was the one.

BG: Yeah and that was --

SC: That's where I saw him, met him.

BG: -- at Amy Rezzonico's house?

SC: Yes, yes, yes.

BG: Okay.

SC: I think that's Seagal. Yes, that's right.

BG: Okay.

SC: Steven Seagal. I thought -- I remember that.

BG: Okay.

SC: When you said that.

BG: That's a pretty memorable party, everybody remembers that one.

SC: That's right, that's right. Joe Arpaio was there.

BG: Yeah. Yep.

SC: Yes. Okay. Now I remember. But I can remember him.

BG: Okay. Alright, so we've eliminated that.

SC: Okay, that's where I met him.

BG: Yep. Um --

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SC: There wasn't any before. I just went to two – I just went to two victory parties.

BG: Okay.

SC: In Phoenix, to be honest—that's all I did. And I went to that.

BG: Okay. Did you go to, um, Mark Goldman's fund raiser?

SC: No.

BG: On October second?

SC: No, no, no.

BG: Okay. Did --

SC: I didn't do any – I didn't really do anything in Phoenix.

BG: Okay. Um, are you aware of the October ten – ah, second fund raiser at Mark Goldman's? Do you know Mark Goldman?

SC: Uh, no. I mean, I met him at the Seagal thing.

BG: The Seagal thing, okay.

SC: [Laughter] Yeah.

BG: Um, okay. So, in – just in summary, um, she came on the scene, you guys don't know really where she came from. She's known as the money maker, or the – the one that's able to get funds for Tom. And is – in somewhat – in some ways credited with getting him elected. And then that's your recollection from just the scuttlebutt around –

SC: Yeah.

BG: -- the campaign? Um –

SC: That's true.

BG: Okay. She had this independent expenditure. You're not sure how you heard of it. But you became aware of it.

SC: Yeah.

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BG: Maybe from a staffer.

SC: Yeah.

BG: Ah, your friend Chuck Diaz was asking how could he help Tom Horne, and you said well, I don't know, but –

SC: Um hm (affirmative).

BG: -- here's this I-E.

SC: Right.

BG: Talk to Kathleen.

SC: Right, right.

BG: And then you were out of it.

SC: Right, right.

BG: And so fast –

SC: 'Cause you are separated when you're down here, I'm telling you.

BG: Yeah, yeah. Yeah. And – and that makes sense.

SC: Yeah, yeah.

BG: I get that.

SC: Oh. So...

BG: So, then fast forward to the – the recent events.

SC: Right. Right.

BG: Which bring us here today.

SC: Right.

BG: Um, on, well, go ahead and –

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SC: Okay. Do I read this again or...?

BG: Let's -- well, don't read it.

SC: No?

BG: Just -- let's just --

SC: Okay. Alright, so --

BG: -- walk us through it so we understand, 'cause --

SC: Alright, so on, um, two ninth, February ninth, Chuck calls me and he was upset. Calls my cell phone -- well, well -- I -- I -- first of all, he called me. And I didn't call him right back, uh, 'cause I was in the middle of a meeting. So he calls John Payton, another friend of mine, who he was politically friends with, and said, um, the FBI call--uh, has contacted me, do you know anything about this? And Jonathan said no. So Jonathan calls me, 'cause he's wants Chuck's -- J--Jonathan's the one that tells me Chuck is upset because the FBI called and, um, he thinks that, uh, there's -- the FBI told him there's been some fraud or maybe he's been lied to about his contribution, do you know anything about it? I said heck, no, Jonathan, but I don't know anything about it. But I'll call Chuck. So I call -- I call Chuck later. And, um, he said, um, same thing, the FBI's contacted me, Sharon, uh, they said I'm not in trouble, but do you know what this is about? Uh, he says you told me that money was for radio ad--I --- I thought that was -- I thought that money was for radio and TV ads. And I said yeah, Chuck, I said I wouldn't steer you into something unethical. Um, he says well, I'm just worried, they're coming to my house next Friday. And, ah, and I said well, you need to talk to Kathleen Winn, 'cause that was her baby. You know, that was her -- so I gave him her cell number and, um, and then I called Kathleen and I said I want to give you a heads up. Chuck Diaz will be calling you, he's upset about this contribution, called on her cell phone. And so she said sh--ah, that -- she said, um, um, don't worry about it. Um, someone's burglarized my office at the A-G, they pro--they removed some phone numbers and addresses. Uh, they want to know exactly when I, ah, got to know Chuck, and, um, she told me it was no big deal, that she would call Chuck and she would call Tom.

BG: Okay.

SC: And that was nine -- that was two -- ah, that was --

BG: That was all on --

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SC: -- two nine --

BG: -- February --

SC: -- that was -- that was on two nine.

BG: Okay.

SC: Two nine.

BG: So, Chuck calls you, you didn't answer.

SC: Yeah.

BG: Um --

SC: Gets upset, calls Jonathan Payton.

BG: Payton.

SC: He's another friend of ours.

BG: Yep.

SC: We're all politically, we kind of get together once and awhile.

BG: Okay. Payton? Is Mister Payton in this office, or he's just --

SC: Oh, no. He's a -- he's, um, he used to be a -- a senator.

BG: Okay.

SC: And then he dropped out and ran for congress and lost.

BG: Oh.

SC: And Gabby Gab—ah, ah, and lost in that race. Kind of a lobbyist and now he's running for C-D three.

BG: Okay.

SC: And so he's not really in this, but he's a friend of Chuck's, that's how he got in this. And so he's calling me, asking what's going on. I said I don't know.

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BG: Okay. And yeah --

SC: And so ---

BG: You guys are far removed. I apologize for not knowing his name or some the names down here. But I'm --

SC: Yeah, yeah. No, that's okay. That's what I mean, that's the difference.

BG: Yeah.

SC: I mean [laughter]. Down here --

BG: I'm from Massachusetts originally. I've only been in Arizona eight years and -- and --

SC: Oh, okay. Oh, yeah.

BG: -- all up in Phoenix. So...

SC: Right, right.

BG: Um...

SC: And see, that's what I do, I -- I also keep everybody informed of what's going down -- on down here.

BG: Okay.

SC: Like there's five people --

BG: Sure.

SC: -- in, ah, the special election right now going on.

BG: Okay. So --

SC: So --

BG: So Mister Payton calls you.

SC: Yeah.

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BG: Says hey, Chuck's upset.

SC: Yeah.

BG: Give him a call.

SC: Right.

BG: You call Chuck back. And this all happens on the ninth.

SC: Ninth, right.

BG: And – okay. And then you call Kathleen on the ninth as well.

SC: Um hm (affirmative).

BG: And said just give you a heads up, Chuck's upset.

SC: Right.

BG: He's calling you and –

SC: Um hm (affirmative).

BG: -- she tells you what she tells you. Okay.

SC: Right.

BG: Okay.

SC: About the FBI.

BG: Yep.

SC: And getting involved at the office. Okay.

BG: Okay. And so, what's next?

SC: Okay. And then, um, I'm down in Sierra Vista with Tom. It's our – it's, ah, it's – it's a Friday evening. Um, we're down at the Cochise Lincoln Day dinner. And we ha—also had a – a – a business meeting. I set up a business meeting with all the business, um, I do that – community leaders and business leaders in Sierra Vista, and we had this, um, and I bring out outreach materials. I do some outreach too. I

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did some dur—and then, ah, after the business meeting, before we go over to the Lincoln Day dinner, he wanted to talk to me. And, um, ah, he said that he was upset. I could tell he was upset. Um, that the FBI was involved and he thought that they – maybe the Obama administration was going after him. And he wanted to know exactly what Chuck said to me.

JB: And what night was this dinner?

SC: This is two—nine ten.

BG: So it's the next day.

SC: Next day.

JB: Okay.

BG: Okay.

SC: Yeah. This is the Cochise Lincoln Day dinner.

BG: Two ten, what'd I say nine for? [UI]

SC: At Sierra Vista.

BG: Yep.

SC: So, um, I told him what Chuck said. I said Chuck said that he was – thinks he was lied to, there's possible fraud. Uh, he asked – Tom asked me to remember exactly – he was upset, he's clearly upset. Asked me, ah, to clearly remember what Chuck – Chuck said. And I – he said did they say to Chuck was it a possible lying or possible fraud? They didn't say it was fraud and it was lying. And I said, you know Tom. I don't know, but I – I don't know to be honest. I thought he just said he's been lied to and there's fraud, but he is not in trouble. That's the bottom line.

BG: Um hm (affirmative).

SC: Uh, so I said what do you want me to do? Do, ah, did you want me to call Chuck? I mean, I felt a little uncomfortable, but he replies just wait 'til he talks to his lawyer, you might need a script. And I said well --

BG: He's suggesting that you might need a script? Or that --

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SC: Yeah. No, that I might.

BG: That you might need a script?

SC: Yeah.

BG: Why would you [laughter]?

SC: I don't know.

BG: Okay.

SC: To say the right thing. 'Cause I — you know, I didn't know what was coming down. So that's kinda gave me — a kind of a red flag. And then after the Cochise dinner, um, Cochise Lincoln Day dinner, Marty and Tom and I, we all rode over to — there to—and back. And she was upset too, saying that she thinks the Obama administration is also after Tom.

JB: Who was this person that you said?

SC: Marty is his wife.

JB: Okay.

SC: Yes, Marty and Tom and I. We — we —

BG: 'Cause you — you drove down together? [UI].

SC: No, we drove separately.

BG: You drove separate? Okay.

SC: Yeah, um hm (affirmative).

BG: So when — I'm sorry, when did Marty say this?

SC: Uh, she drove — af—after the — well, what — what it was, we all stayed at the Fairfield together.

BG: Okay.

SC: And so, um, ah, but I drove back separately. 'Cause he had to go to Florence the next day.

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BG: Okay.

SC: And I had an event in Pima I had to do for him in Pima that night.

BG: Okay.

SC: So we drove separately. But, the Lincoln Day dinner we were at the same hotel, so we went over to the Lincoln Day dinner and back together.

BG: Okay. And that's when she said --

SC: Yeah, at the evening --

BG: Okay.

SC: -- she's upset. So I could tell they're clearly both, you know, upset, but, the FBI and the Obama administration. Because Tom does have like six, um, lawsuits against the Obama administration. So...

BG: Okay.

SC: He's kinda connecting the dots.

BG: Uh huh (affirmative).

SC: So... Then, um, on Wednesday, February fifteenth, I'm in Phoenix for our weekly executive team meeting. And I feel like no one knows what's going -- this -- nothing's been said about any of this. And so I'm not saying anything. And I was hoping that nobody would say anything. But before our final -- my final meeting, which is a calendar meeting when we talk about, ah, Tom's schedule. He, ah, calls Kathleen and not my--myself in to his office. And Kathleen states that the FBI called Jim Waring. 'Cause Jim Waring worked for Kathleen in the Outreach office before he got on -- got on the city council, the Phoenix City Council.

BG: Okay.

SC: Good guy. And, but she wasn't worried about Jim, they were friends and they left on friendly terms when he won the city council race. Um, then Tom said to me that remember that the FBI says if you cannot talk to anyone else after you've had a meeting, but that's not true. You're -- are -- by law, that you can talk to other people.

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BG: Yeah, we –

SC: [Sigh].

BG: Just a point on that. We ask people not to, because we don't want people to cloud each other's memories.

SC: Yeah.

BG: With – with things and –

SC: Yeah, yeah.

BG: -- suddenly, you know, it's two years as it is.

SC: I know.

BG: And then say, hey, you know, did I remember that, or did someone tell me that?

SC: Right.

BG: Or when did I hear that? It just – it's cloudy. So we ask people for that reason, you know, try not to talk to others about it. Um, so, you know –

SC: Yeah.

BG: -- he's – he's saying you can't talk about it, that's not what we tell people. So, he – he's mistaken there.

SC: Okay.

BG: And I – you – you're free to do whatever you want.

SC: Yeah.

BG: If – if you feel you want to talk about it –

SC: Right.

BG: -- with anybody, you can go hold a press conference if you want to.

SC: [Laughter] Okay.

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BG: Um, you know, but —

SC: Okay.

BG: -- you know, we ask that you not, because we're trying to keep —

SC: Yeah.

BG: -- the facts straight.

SC: That's understandable.

BG: Yeah.

SC: Well, that's what I thought. I thought that was kind of — kind of off. Off the wall. So, um, he wants to call Chuck after Chuck meets with the FBI on Friday. He suggested that I call him. And I kind of steer him in the — the right direction. But Kathleen and I both said this would not be a good idea and to leave him alone. And I said I — Chuck's a good guy and I — not to worry about him, we'll just tell the truth. Then he asked me to call Payton and tell him not to talk about our conversation. But I didn't do that, 'cause I wasn't comfortable with that.

BG: So —

SC: 'Cause I told him I rep—I volunteered that, yeah, I talked to — to To—ah, yeah, I talked to John Payton. I said — I said Chuck called John Payton, too. I just —

JB: And so Tom asked you to call John Payton?

SC: Um hm (affirmative).

JB: Okay. And say what again?

SC: Um, just to tell him not to broadcast the — the conversation about Chuck.

JB: Okay.

SC: So, I didn't. 'Cause I think you're just — well... So, ah —

BG: I'm sorry, it's —

SC: Yes.

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BG: There's – there's a lot of names going around.

SC: Yeah.

BG: Just – and just so I'm clear.

SC: Yeah.

BG: Um, Tom asked you not to tell anyone about your conversation with Chuck or with John? Is – is that – do I understand that correctly, or did I get that wrong?

SC: Well –

BG: Jan, did I get that right? Are you confused or...?

SC: Well, are you – well, you know, he has told me at the meeting to call Payton.

BG: Okay.

SC: Because I had volunteered that day that Jonathan Payton had called me –

BG: Yep.

SC: -- because he couldn't get a hold of Chuck. And he said why don't you call Jonathan, call him back and tell him not to publicize or to tell anybody that this is going on.

BG: Okay.

SC: That – that Chuck has got you involved and maybe the FBI is –

BG: Okay.

SC: -- doing some investigation.

BG: So Tom's asked you to call John to say don't tell anybody –

SC: Don't broadcast.

BG: -- that the FBI's –

SC: Right, this is going on.

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BG: -- talking to Chuck.

JB: Okay.

BG: Oh, my gosh. I think I got it now. I'm glad to clarify that.

SC: Okay.

JB: Okay.

SC: Okay. So –

BG: And you haven't done that? 'Okay, you haven't called John?

SC: No. No, no, no.

BG: Or – or you haven't called Chuck?

SC: No. No.

JB: And has John tried to get a hold of you?

SC: Um hm (affirmative).

JB: He has?

SC: Um hm (affirmative).

JB: Okay.

SC: He called me last night. I haven't called him back. I – 'cause I wanted to ask your advice about how to deal with all these people.

BG: Just tell 'em me – don't – don't rope me into it. Stop calling.

SC: Yeah, yeah. Well, I – I've said that to 'em before. But, all – you know. Okay. So...

BG: And you didn't – you didn't take John's call last night?

SC: No.

BG: You didn't – okay.

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SC: No, no, no. No, I haven't called him.

JB: And – and what numbers have they been calling you on? Your cell phone? Your --

SC: My cell phone.

JB: Your cell phone.

SC: Yeah, yeah.

JB: Okay.

SC: Yeah. Nobody calls me at work. They know I'm at the A-G, so they stay away from that. Um, Tom was going to talk to his lawyer about our conversation. That was the other thing he said. The conversation that we were having in Phoenix with Kathleen and...

JB: That happened just this --

SC: Yeah, yeah.

JB: -- Wednesday of this week?

SC: Yeah, yeah.

JB: Okay.

SC: Um hm (affirmative). He'll -- he'll talk about the conversation and he's gonna talk about how it should be handled. Maybe that I would, um, intervene before his lawyer's -- he's not gonna call Chuck, but his lawyer supposedly is gonna call Chuck. And I would steer Chuck in the right direction, which I was not comfortable with and I know Chuck would not be either.

JB: And what did you take him to mean by the right direction?

SC: Ah, God, that's a good question. Uh, probably that he shouldn't worry about anything. You know, there's, ah, nothing's happened, or that you don't have to worry. I -- you know, to be honest, I didn't even think about what that would entail, what I would say, 'cause I wasn't planning to do it. So --

JB: Yeah.

SC: -- I kinda just cut that off in my brain. 'Cause I was not gonna do that.

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JB: 'Kay.

SC: Uh, 'cause I –

BG: So Tom was – Tom was gonna talk to his attorney, and they were gonna call Chuck to –

SC: After the FBI meets on Friday.

BG: Yeah, on Friday.

SC: So that's what I got on –

BG: Okay. And –

SC: Twelve fifteen that night, Ka—ah, Kathleen calls me after I had a meeting with Tom and she at – at two o'clock in the afternoon. And then that night, on my cell phone, and I saved the call. No, I saved the call, yeah, because I saved it on my cell phone. Six fifty-one she calls me and she says, um, it's no big deal, but, ah, call me back, call me tomorrow, um, the attorneys want me – the – the attorneys want you to know something, and I'm the messenger. So, I thought what the hell do I do now? So I called her the next day, though. Uh, and she said life happens, the truth comes out and Tom and I will be okay. Tom's lawyer will call Chuck after the interview with the FBI, but he wanted me to call and talk to Chuck to set up the call from the lawyer. Oh, that was – I guess that was – I thought I wrote that down, 'cause that's what it was.

BG: Okay.

SC: That they would be calling.

BG: So Kathleen's gonna set up a ca—a phone call for the attorneys with Chuck?

SC: I'm supposed to do that.

BG: Oh, you're supposed to do that? Okay.

SC: Yeah. [Laughter]

BG: And –

SC: And I said Chuck won't pick up. I don't think Chuck would like any guidance.

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BG: Okay.

SC: That's what I said to her. But, Kathleen said don't leave a message. She says Tom knows you are close to Chuck, so that's why he would like you to make the call.

BG: Okay.

SC: And that was our last, ah, that was two – two sixteen.

BG: That was two – okay, so that was yesterday.

JB: That was yesterday?

SC: That was yesterday.

JB: Okay. Has Chuck tried to get a hold of you in the meantime?

SC: No, he has not at all.

JB: Okay.

SC: I – you know, knowing Chuck he's think—'cause I said, Chuck, I'm – I know nothing about this. And so he has not – and I – so he must be confident. Like I said, he's one to remember the truth, too –

BG: Um hm (affirmative).

SC: -- so he must be confident about it.

JB: M'kay.

BG: Yeah.

SC: Already.

JB: Yeah. And he – who all else have you told about this conversation? Have you confided in your husband?

SC: No, are you kidding?

JB: Okay. And what about your coworker here, Don?

SC: Don Dybus. Yeah. Yes, Don's – Don's been my, ah, confidant.

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JB: Okay.

SC: 'Cause he's a lawyer and, um, I was feeling uncomfortable with these conversations, and I was feeling I might be railroaded.

JB: Okay.

SC: Only because of my past experience with Kathleen lying.

JB: Okay.

SC: I thought she might get me involved somehow and it'd be, you know, she and me.

JB: Right.

SC: She said, she said.

BG: Um hm (affirmative).

SC: You know? Even though I have nothing to do with any of that whole fund raising thing.

BG: Um hm (affirmative). So, I – just, if you could, you're – you're perception of this, if – if they've done nothing wrong, then – then what are they doing? I mean, ah, it – it seems like, if Chuck tells the truth, then there's nothing to be said, then why is there all this concern about who's talking and what are they saying and who needs scripts and –

SC: I don't know. Um, it has to be all the – the election laws with the – the independent camp—campaign expenditure, which I don't know them.

BG: Um hm (affirmative).

SC: But it has to be, you know, the laws according to the independent expenditure campaigns, that's all I know.

BG: Okay.

SC: Heard the word collusion. That's all I know.

BG: Okay. Jan, anything else?

JB: No, I think that's all I have.

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BG: Okay. Well, do you have any -- anything else --

SC: No, just give --

[OV]

BG: -- that we didn't ask you that you can think of that would be --

SC: -- well, no, just give me advice how to handle people, um, on the staff. I'm now -- I don't know if it has anything to do with anything, but when people, um, I just had one of the lawyers call me from Phoenix, I didn't pick up. Um, how am I su-- how am I supposed to react or what's going to be my communication if -- if anybody else gets involved with this in our staff?

BG: Well, let's talk, um, I'm gonna go off tape. 'Cause that's -- that --

SC: Oh, yeah, yes.

BG: -- concludes the interview. That's the im--

SC: Okay.

BG: -- and you provided us the information --

SC: Okay.

BG: -- that we need that's relevant --

SC: Alright. Alright.

BG: -- and --

JB: You're going to give us copies of the notes --

SC: Oh, yeah.

JB: -- that you've taken.

SC: Yeah, but it -- I'll have [UI].

BG: It is, ah, eleven oh five. We're going off...

[Break in Recording]

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BG: Uh, this is Brian Grehoski, FBI. We're back on tape at, ah, eleven fifteen on February seventeenth. And we are about to hear a recorded message from Kathleen Winn. Um, Sharon, if you could, would – the date and time of this message is...?

SC: Uh, six fifty-one, uh, was the time on two sixteen.

BG: So February sixteenth? Okay.

SC: Uh huh (affirmative).

BG: Six fifty-one P.M.?

SC: Uh huh (affirmative).

BG: Okay.

[Beeping sound]

[Pause]

RC: [IA] play your messages [IA]. First saved message [IA] at twelve [UI] four P.M.

UM: Hey, Sharon, it's Richard [IA].

SC: Oh, that's just a friend of mine.

JB: Okay.

RC: Thursday, February ninth at [UI] P.M.

UM: Sharon, Chuck Diaz could you give me a buzz? [IA]

SC: [Laughter] I'll erase that now, then.

RC: [IA] more options. [IA] Wednesday, February fifteen at six fifty-one P.M.

SC: February fifteenth.

BG: February fifteenth.

KW: ...Kathleen, um, you don't have to call me back tonight. It's Wednesday. But call me tomorrow if you can. Uh, nothing urgent, but the attorneys wanted to – you to know something, so I need you to know something [laughter]. This is – and I'm the

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messenger bird. Thank you. Bye-bye.

RC: End of message. To reply to it press eight.

BG: Okay. We're going off tape.

RC: To delete this message...

[End of Recording]

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 02/21/2012


On 02/17/2012, Sharon C. Collins telephoned SA Janet L. Burris at approximately 1:19 p.m. and advised the following:

Collins telephoned SA Burris to advise that after her interview with the FBI early today she was called by David Cole, Solicitor General, Office of the Attorney General, State of Arizona. Cole called Collins to tell her that he thought her state issued BlackBerry, 602-319-1911, had been hacked. Cole based this on the fact that Collins' BlackBerry had several messages that came up 0000.

Collins told Cole that she does not know why she had messages showing up as 0000 but that she had deleted these messages. Collins only uses her state issued BlackBerry for emails and does not actually use it for telephone calls. Collins thought it was strange that Cole would have access to review her BlackBerry in his position as Solicitor General.

Investigation on 02/17/2012 at Tucson, AZ (telephonically)

File # 194A-PX-87458 - (6) Date dictated _____

by SA Janet L. Burris 

MCAO000825

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 02/22/2012

On 02/20/2012, Don Dybus, Assistant Attorney General, State of Arizona, telephone 520-360-9757, telephoned SA Janet L. Burris at approximately 9:10 a.m. and advised the following:

Dybus telephoned SA Burris to advise that he had some information regarding Arizona Attorney General, Tom Horne, that he wanted to pass on to law enforcement. Sharon Collins, Dybus' co-worker, had recently confided in Dybus about an independent expenditure committee, "Business Leaders for Arizona" (BLA) raising money to help elect Horne.

Dybus did his own research on the internet and found the public campaign finance report for BLA. Richard G. Newman of Santa Monica, California had donated a total of \$115,000 in October of 2010 to BLA. Through the website "Corporationwiki" Dybus obtained information that linked Newman to Horne Consulting LLC that Dybus believes was formed about the same time Newman donated to BLA. Dybus explained that Newman is married to Horne's sister.

Investigation on 02/20/2012 at Tucson, Arizona (telephonically)
File # 194A-PX-87458 - (18) Date dictated _____
by SA Janet L. Burris/jlb 

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription _____

On 2/21/2012, Sharon C. Collins voluntarily came to the Tucson Federal Bureau of Investigation Resident Agency, 1 South Church Avenue, Tucson, Arizona. After being advised of the identities of the interviewing agents, Collins agreed to a taped recorded interview. The following highlights the major points of Collins recorded interview:

- Collins advised that someone from Tom Horne's campaign for Arizona Attorney General, was seeking additional donors for an Independent Expenditure Committee (IEC) being run by Kathleen Winn.
- Winn was the outreach person on Horne's campaign and was also running the IEC. Either through an email or a telephone conversation, Collins learned that Winn was looking for donations to the IEC. Collins was also working for Horne's campaign.
- Collins had a friend named Chuck Diaz who wanted to help Horne get elected. Collins called Diaz and asked him if he would contribute to the IEC.
- Diaz was the only person Collins asked to contribute to the IEC. Collins provided Winn with the contact information for Diaz.

The original interview recording was placed in an FD-504b and sent to ELSUR.

Investigation on 02/21/2012 at Tucson, AZ

File # 196A-PX-87458 - (25) Date dictated _____
by SA Janet L. Burris/jlb
SA Theodore Callimanis

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION



File Number:

194A-PX-87458

TRANSCRIPTION

Sharon Collins Interview
February 21, 2012

Participants:

JB FBI Special Agent Janet Buriss
TC FBI Special Agent Theo Callimanis
SC Sharon Collins

Abbreviations:

UI Unintelligible

Reviewed by Mark Stribling *ms*

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JB Okay, today's date is February 21, 2012. It is a Tuesday. We're at the Tucson Resident Agency of the FBI. Um, I have Sharon Collins, um, with us to be interviewed. She's agreed to be interviewed on tape, and I have Special Agent Theo Callimanis, and I am Janet Burris. So, Sharon, we've spoke with you, myself and another agent last Friday. Is that correct?

SC That's correct.

JB And we've talked about your knowledge of what went on for some camp... campaign contributions, um, when Tom Horne was running, um, for Attorney General. Is that correct?

SC That's correct.

JB Okay, one of the things that we focused on, um, during that time was another independent expenditure committee known as Business Leaders for Arizona. Again, tell us what you knew about that and when you first learned it... to the best of your recollection.

SC Um, I did not know the name of it. Um, I heard from a staffer that, um, I don't recall um, who... it's been something that, um, is out there on a campaign, because I'm in Tucson, I'm not privy to the main campaign meetings. Like, I didn't attend any of the campaign meetings. I, um, uh, was just privy to knowledge that would trickle down to me as needed. For example, if I need to put up signs, I was told to put up signs. So, if I need to be at a, an event, on behalf of Tom, I would be there. So, it ah... I found that the independent expenditure campaign, and, uh, I can't remember if it was after the primary (UI) let's see. It was before the primary, of course, we needed that, before the primary, I believe and, um, so I heard that Kathleen Winn was going to be in charge of this is independent expenditure, and... to help get Tom elected. And, um, so, I had a friend and his name is Chuck Diaz and he wanted to know how I can help out Tom Horne. I said, well, I think there's an independent expenditure coming down. This is the person

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you need to contact, and then I stepped back. And I said, you can probably mail it, um, but, um, I talked Kathleen and she said, no, I'm going to go in person and pick up the check. And she asked me where he lived.

JB Okay.

SC So, that's kind of a like-

JB Okay.

JB So you were an active part of Mr. Horne's campaign?

JB I'm a staffer but on weekends and the nights I, um, I participated in his campaign. Um, because I'm a staffer, in fact, Kathleen didn't really understand. I could not participate during the day. I couldn't go to the meetings during the day. I have to take off a personal day if I did that. And so, um, I could use my lunch time, I could do a lunch time thing, but that was it, and I had to be very careful and so, um, that's how I kind of got her to understand. She didn't understand that I could not just be out there campaigning for him like her. Because she was in the mor-, mortgage business. She was not, uh, a staffer-

JB Okay.

SC And I've been with Tom for nine years.

JB Okay.

SC Eight years at that time.

JB Okay. With the-

SC Uh, at the Department of Education.

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JB Education. Okay.

SC Hm-hmm.

JB Um, so, Mr. Diaz is a good friend of yours and do you know that he would have funds available to donate?

SC Yes, he's a... he's been, uh, very philanthropic with me. Um, when I needed money for Agent Terry, for example, his parents to get here he gave me money. We needed some money for victims' rights. Uh, we had a big shindig and he gave me some money. Um, whenever we were short and it was for a good cause and he was very supportive of Tom, because he was behind the ethnic studies bill and that was his baby, the reason he got involved. And so, um, he wanted that to go forward.

JB Okay. So, again, the best to your recollection, and just keep in mind, um, you certainly could produce phone records that would substantiate this. Kathleen could, Mr. Diaz could. As part of our investigation, you know we have the right to subpoena those records as well. How do you think this went about? You, you told Kathleen about him. Do you believe that you called Mr. Diaz and said hey, there's another independent expenditure committee. Um, do you believe you spoke with him in first person, um, or did you give Kathleen his number. How and again, Sharon, I, I'd think...

SC Hm-hmm.

JB long and clear, about how it-

SC Chuck is the only person that I brought, that I brought into fold-

JB Okay.

SC As far as, you know, uh, campaign financing. He had given Tom money in

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the campaign. So he's the only one that I knew in my fold and so there's, I don't have anybody else. I don't have any big money contributors. I'm not one and my friends aren't, and most pep... people in the Republican party that I know are not either. And so, um, that's how, uh, they came to me knowing that Chuck went to help Tom out more. It's kind of those terms, you know, to be honest, I can't remember exactly the details. I just know it's was a cam... all of a sudden, uh, Kathleen was doing this independent campaign, so that's a good thing. This gal, Kathleen, who did not know from Adam-

JB Okay.

SC You know, and, um, so, um, who were the people that may be contribute to it, and Chuck was the only one I had in mind-

JB Okay.

SC So...

TC How did, how did Mr. Diaz come to know about this independent campaign?

SC I told him. I told him.

TC Okay

JB Okay, and do you believe then that you called Kathleen, and then Kathleen called him, or?

SC Uh, I let go of it after that. Um.

JB Do, do you think you would've given Kathleen like his contact information?

SC Oh, oh, definitely, and then she called him and she set up and she, she went

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to his home.

JB Okay.

SC Yeah, that's definitely. Yep, yep.

JB Okay, did that happen in a relatively short period of time, or over several weeks, or what's your recollection?

SC It was a pretty period of time.

JB Okay.

SC I just don't remember the, the window, you know. That, that period of time when the indep... when that actually came out.

JB Okay.

SC I'm trying to remember that.

JB Okay.

TC Do I understand, just to be clear.

SC Yes.

TC So, you were the one to inform Mr. Diaz about this independent campaign this independent election funding, and you were the one who told him you could donate to this.

SC Um.

TC That's how he learned about it, correct?

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SC Um, that's correct.

TC Okay

JB Okay.

SC That's correct.

JB Okay.

SC Yes.

JB Have you ever heard of Richard Newman? Richard or Christine Newman? Do you know who those people are?

SC No, I don't.

JB Okay. Um, and again, so you first learned of the independent expenditure committee from Mr. Horne or...

SC I didn't know, I didn't know, um, I don't remember. It was one of those things that you know that you have to be careful with because the candidates' not supposed to know. It's independent of them and the campaign. So I was very careful because of my job as a staffer.

JB Okay.

SC And so, um, um, I just knew, I mean, it's kind of campaign knowledge, the most campaigns, there's an independent expenditure campaign, every camp and I've been involved in many and I've run for office. And so, there always is one out there and so, I didn't know the name of it. I just know it came up and then Chuck was my only, like I said, person that I knew.

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JB Okay, so, how do you think you knew of it when it came out? Do you recall who, who referred you to Kath...

SC Uh, maybe, you know, maybe Kathleen or maybe it was in email?

JB But you said you never met, met Kathleen before so how did you come to meet her?

SC Um, well, that was the connection of... that was our big connection.

JB Okay.

SC That was our big connection. I mean, I've gotten some emails before for, from, from her, uh, wanting me to do campaign things and I said, I, you know, I can't do all of this stuff, I can do lunches... eh, I could do lunches and that type of thing. But I couldn't do, I couldn't come to Phoenix and do campaign meetings and that type of thing, and, uh, this is all hard, like I said, hard to remember, but, uh, I just remembered that I uh know... I knew it was a way that, um, Chuck wanted to be able to support Tom more and, uh, that was the way to do it. I just remember thinking that in my brain.

JB Okay.

SC Yeah.

JB Okay. Who, have you ever heard of Horne Consulting?

SC No.

JB Okay, okay. Is there anything else, um, that you thought about since we spoke with you on Friday, or, anything else that you're holding back? I mean, this is really your chance to kind of share?

SC Um.

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JB Everything that-

SC No, it's just that, you know, Kathleen-

JB That you know.

SC Came out of nowhere. That was the big thing for me. That she came out of nowhere.

JB Okay.

SC In this campaign. And, uh, so, but she was separate. I didn't know her, I mean I just got some email. She's gonna be our, uh, outreach person for the campaign, and that type of thing. And she was a mortgage person so she knew a lot of people.

TC Who sent these emails saying she was gonna be involved?

SC Uh, I guess it was probably some emails from her. Uh, from her sh... home. We did this, we didn't do anything on... you know she sent everything from her home. And she sent to my home, my sixties chick, uh, email address because.

JB And what, again, is your, that email?

SC That's sixties chick at cox dot net. That's my home.

JB And is it sixty spelled out or just?

SC No, 6-O-S.

JB Okay.

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SC 6-0-S-chick, that's what I am.

JB Okay.

SC So.

JB Okay, okay.

SC Um, so, I mean, I got emails, so I, I guess, in the beginning, I'm trying to think back. I got to know, I didn't know her, I never met her, but I got to know that she got into the campaign. It was like in the middle. She was, um, uh, 'cause she knew a lot of people and she was working hard attending things, blah, blah, blah, and, um, so I got a couple of emails about her, about can you use this down in Tucson, or that down in Tucson. And, and, I, so, and I figured out that she didn't understand that I was a staffer so I kinda got that information back. That's how I remember all of this. And then later on, there was a short, like a short window of time with this independent thing, it was a very short window of time, you know. Um-

JB But she was doing both. She was part of the campaign and then she was part of the...

SC She was... all that I knew, yes, she was on the campaign. I mean, she was definitely part of the campaign. Yeah.

JB And so what did you think about her also then having this other expenditure committee.

SC You know what? I didn't think about it to be honest. I forgot, you know, the separation and that type of thing. She tells me that she, um, that when she did independent she wasn't part of the campaign but I don't recollect that.

JB Okay.

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SC I just remember seeing her at the victory celebration, that's the first time I met her at Tom's, um, town, uh, his, his, like, his party clubhouse, excuse me. Um, we were celebrating the primary victory and I met her there, and I think Chuck was there too.

JB Okay.

SC But that's...

TC How did, how did you feel about being part of the campaign and soliciting Mr. Diaz to donate money to an independent?

SC Um, you know, it's, it's one of those things that happens in every campaign that I've been in. You know it's there, you just have to be careful. You can't, um, 'cause the candidate is not supposed to know, and it's another way for people to help other, help the candidate out. That's all that I, you know, I, honestly don't know the, the laws, the election laws about it. I've just always known that that was part of campaigns and that's a, a second way for people to help.

JB Okay.

SC But that's about it. But like I said I only know one person, um, that I was involved with that I know.

JB Okay.

SC And that, so.

JB You called me back last Friday afternoon.

SC Oh yeah.

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JB You said you had been called by-

SC Well, I just thought it was strange, that's why I called you.

JB David Cole...

SC I call by Dave Cole, who's our Solicitor General, and he said to me, uh, uh, I got a couple of funny emails from you in your Blackberry and they're all zeros, and I go, well, that's strange. I said, in fact that is strange. I saw them and I just didn't know if they were Dave, so I deleted them. So he said, I think I think you're being hacked into and if I, if there's any more, I, I'm gonna, we'll have this investigated or sent in to IT.

JB Okay. Did you find it? Has he ever called about your Blackberry before?

SC No, I just thought that was very odd.

JB And so?

SC I thought maybe he was monitoring me or something.

JB Right.

SC You know?

JB Obviously he's, has the ability in his position-

SC Yeah.

JB To look at your Blackberry-

SC Right, right. I just thought...

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JB And Blackberry activity.

SC it's very odd, 'cause how do you get, I mean, that's never happened in email on my Blackberry to, you know, just a very odd conversation-

JB Okay.

SC That's why I called you.

JB Okay, and they haven't asked you to turn your Blackberry in or anything since then?

SC No. It's my state... I only use it for emails.

JB Right.

SC I think I told you that.

JB Exactly.

SC But, um, and then, um, I guess the last thing I haven't told you, uh, last time I called you on Friday, right, well, I talked to my fr... friend Jonathan and he, 'cause he called me, I said, oh, I gotta call him back, so, he's the friend of Chuck's who remember I told you-

JB And his last name is-

SC Pey-, Peyton.

JB Okay.

SC Okay. Remember I told you Jonathan?

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JB Yes.

SC That's in my notes.

JB Yes.

SC Because I didn't immediately call Chuck back and, um, and I haven't spoken to Chuck since all this has gone on.

JB Okay.

SC 'Cause I'm sure he was told not to say anything, and he's, you know, but he was very upset. So Jonathan said to me, um, what's going on? I said, uh, I said, I don't know Jonathan, and he says, well, don't you think it's crazy that, uh, that Kathleen would tell Chuck not to talk to the FBI, and I thought, oh, great. So, that's been part of the thing that's upsetting more than anything is that whole thing with Chuck, and I'm sure, I'm sure Chuck knew that wasn't right. And so, then Tom calls me Saturday morning at home and wants to know, uh, if I've talked to Chuck, and I've said no, I don't think it's a good idea. I said he doesn't take direction well, well, and I was kind of kidding with him. I said, you know, he's kind of a male chauvinist. I don't think it's a good idea, and I don't want to call him.

JB And what number did he call you out on Saturday morning?

SC On, on my home phone.

JB And what's that number?

SC

[REDACTED]

JB (UI)

SC And he also called me on my cell, I think.

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JB Give me your home phone again, please.

SC Uh, 520-[REDACTED]

JB Okay, and you believe he called on your cell? Again, your 520 cell?

SC Well, I, he called me at home and I called him back at home.

JB (UI)

SC But I called... no that just what it was. He called me at home, I called him back on my cell, and I called him on his cell. Something like that?

JB And what cell number did you call him at? Do you know what his cell?

SC Um, [REDACTED] I think.

JB [REDACTED]

SC Uh, [REDACTED] I think it's 602 it's in my phone. But, I talked, I, he called me, he called me at home...it... I know that, I remember that for a fact but I remember I called back on my cell phone.

JB Okay.

SC But anyway, that was the last, uh, of any conversation I've had since I talked to you.

JB Okay, and, and why do you think Kathleen would tell Chuck not to talk to the FBI?

SC Uh, because of the conversation that we've had where Tom has said, you

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know, the FBI tells you that you are not allowed to talk anybody, but that's not true, you can talk to people after talking to them.

JB Okay.

SC So, and so, she was just kind of portraying that, um, to me or... to Chuck that it's okay to talk. You know, you don't have to, um, hold everything in.

JB Okay.

SC Hold everything back.

JB Okay.

SC I think that's what it was about.

JB And does he still have his staff meeting tomorrow?

SC Yes.

JB In Phoenix.

SC Yeah.

JB Okay.

SC And that's where I was pulled aside last week too. So I'm sure I'll be pulled aside this week, too. So....

JB Anything else that you can think of?

SC No, no, that was the main thing is, um, as hard for me, like, the only thing that was hard for me to remember is that the time frame... the Kathleen

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time 'cause I didn't know her. I wasn't a part, you know, I wasn't part of the Phoenix group, so that was, uh, uh, the time frame was harder for me to remember all that. And it was a short period of time because I, she didn't come until, well, I didn't know her. She came in probably earlier, I just didn't know her until I met her at that, um, shindig.

JB Okay.

SC That's my only thing that's kind of fuzzy, I can't remember that. You know, the time frame for me. But, see, 'cause she, we've been a staff together, she's outreach and I do outreach, and I've been working for her for a year.

JB Yeah.

SC You know, that's all, you know, pretty framed in my mind but the campaign seems like eons ago.

JB Okay, but she always emailed you at your personal...

SC Yeah, yeah.

JB Email?

SC She my per... email. Right, yeah. And so, I mean, Tom said Sharon, I've done everything ethically right on the campaign. I said, well, that's good. You know? So that's all.

JB Do you remember what her email was? Was it like a campaign-

SC Hmm.

JB Email or was it personal?

SC No, no, Kathleen dot Winn something. You know, I don't know to be

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honest.

JB Okay.

SC I can't get anymore. I know it's off because I tried to email her on it and it's, I can no longer... it doesn't... it comes back.

TC When?

SC That's when she was at Country Mutual or something, she was in a mortgage business then.

TC When did you last try to email her?

SC Uh, uh, I said, I asked for her personal. Well, I know, I thought I send her something on her personal email, and, uh, about politics down here but it came back, but.

TC When was this?

SC Uh, couple months ago probably.

TC When was the last time you had contact with her?

SC Um, when I told Jan, um, she left me a message and, uh, I let Jan listen to it.

JB And we recorded that-

SC Right.

JB Message.

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SC Right.

JB Yeah, we played during the last interview.

SC Right.

JB Okay.

SC That's the last time We... everything's been, uh, it's quiet.

JB Okay.

SC Just Tom calling... that's the last thing I had.

JB Okay, and Chuck hasn't called you.

SC No, which surprises me.

JB Okay.

SC He, like I said, he must have been told not to say anything because he was upset.

JB Okay.

SC And he's the type of person who have been good friends for many years and I know he wouldn't want to hurt me, or you know, so that's (UI) to.

JB And do you think any of this would hurt you?

SC Well, I don't know. I have no idea. That's why, that's why, trying to be upright with this and straight forward.

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JB Yeah.

SC You know? And the only reason I say, I think that might hurt me is because I know Kathleen. I can't trust what she might say because she's hurt me before in the last year, and, uh, she doesn't tell the truth. And so, that's why I got worried to be honest. If I didn't have, if I knew that I had to do, afraid of saying this, uh, uh, she said, she said type of thing, you know. And so, I thought I need to have some backup here.

JB Yeah.

SC I need to know that, uh, I do some offense because I could be back to the corner where I'm defending myself. 'Cause I don't know what you come up with, I'm just, I'm just saying that, you know. What she could come up with. I don't have anything that I, you know, I feel like I have done everything ethically that I know. Um, I mean, I've been in politics many years, you know, and, uh, worked for Governor Hull. I've worked with Governor Symington, so people know me. One of the reasons I've been a faithful staffer for 16 years is because I'm honest and straightforward, and there's nothing in my background because when I ran for Secretary of State, believe me, they've checked my background. So, um, but, you never know in life when you have... up against someone who lies. So you have to cover your... you gotta be careful. That's how, that's why I'm saying, I feel like I need to be forthright as far as this even though I had no idea it might... if anything, my, uh, learned the election laws. To be honest, I don't know them deeply. I just know, I was always doing, I always did clean elections when I ran for office which is must different.

JB Anything else? Well, Sharon, if there's nothing else, we'll turn the tape off I really appreciate-

SC Okay, sure.

JB You coming over.

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SC Sure, sure.

JB And with meeting us again.

SC Sure, sure.

JB Thank you very much.

TC It's approximately 2:26, shutting off the recorder.